

## Message Text

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ACTION ORM-01

INFO OCT-01 AF-04 IO-10 ISO-00 SR-02 EB-04 AID-05 OMB-01

TRSE-00 OIC-02 SCA-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-05 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 ARA-06 EA-06 EUR-12 NEA-06 /103 W

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R 151700Z NOV 74

FM USMISSION GENEVA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9242

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1114

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OCON, AORG, ICEM

SUBJECT: ICEM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

REF: GENEVA 6446, 6688, 6773

1. AT ICEM EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING NOVEMBER 14,  
DIRECTOR JOHN THOMAS ANNOUNCED SOUTH AFRICA'S WITHDRAWAL FROM  
ICEM NATIONAL MIGRATION PROGRAM. GOS LETTER TO THOMAS  
QUOTED HERE FOR YOUR INFORMATION:

QUOTE: DEAR MR. THOMAS. YOU WILL RECALL THAT SEVERAL  
MEMBER GOVERNMENTS HAVE IN THE PAST RAISED THE QUESTION AS  
TO WHETHER THERE IS STILL ANY NEED FOR ICEM TO MAINTAIN ITS  
NATIONAL MIGRATION PROGRAMME. WHEN THIS MATTER WAS  
AGAIN RAISED DURING THE THIRTY-SIXTH SESSION OF THE COUNCIL  
YOU REMARKED THAT MOVEMENTS FROM ONE DEVELOPED COUNTRY TO  
ANOTHER COULD PERFECTLY WELL TAKE PLACE BOTH OPERATIONALLY  
AND FINANCIALLY WITHOUT INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE. THIS  
DEVELOPMENT, COUPLED WITH THE FACT THAT MOVEMENTS TO THE  
REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA UNDER ICEM'S DECLINING NATIONAL  
MIGRATION PROGRAMME, CONSTITUTE BUT A VERY SMALL PERCENTAGE

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OF THE TOTAL ANNUAL MOVEMENTS TO MY COUNTRY, HAS PROMPTED

MY GOVERNMENT TO REVIEW ITS PARTICIPATION IN THIS PROGRAMME.  
IT HAS COME TO THE CONCLUSION THAT THE STAGE HAS BEEN REACHED  
WHERE IT WOULD BE BENEFICIAL TO INTEGRATE ALL MOVEMENTS OF  
NATIONAL MIGRANTS TO SOUTH AFRICA IN A UNIFORM PROGRAMME.  
CONSEQUENTLY I HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO CONVEY TO YOU MY GOVERN-  
MENT'S DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM ACTIVE PARTICIPATION IN  
ICEM'S NATIONAL MIGRATION PROGRAMME WITH EFFECT FROM  
1. JAN 1975. IT IS REALIZED THAT THE WINDING UP OF OUR MUTUAL  
COMMITMENTS AS FAR AS THIS PROGRAMME IS CONCERNED MAY  
NOT ALL BE MET BY THIS DATE BUT I AM SURE THAT WE SHALL HAVE  
NO DIFFICULTY ARRANGING THIS ADMINISTRATIVELY. I CAN ASSURE  
YOU THAT MY GOVERNMENT'S DECISION IS NO REFLECTION  
ON THE SERVICES OF YOUR HEADQUARTERS OR OTHER OFFICES. ON  
THE CONTRARY, THE SERVICES HAVE ALWAYS BEEN OF THE HIGHEST  
STANDARD AND I AM DIRECTED TO CONVEY TO YOU MY GOVERNMENT'S  
SINCERE APPRECIATION THEREOF. MY GOVERNMENT'S INTEREST IN  
THE REFUGEE AND LATIN AMERICAN PROGRAMMES HAS NOT DECLINED  
IN ANY WAY AND I HAVE BEEN DIRECTED TO ASSURE YOU OF ITS  
CONTINUED FINANCIAL SUPPORT IN THESE ENDEAVORS. THE  
DECISION TO WITHDRAW FROM THE NATIONAL MIGRATION PROGRAMME  
MAY, HOWEVER, NECESSITATE A REASSESSMENT OF ITS OTHER FINANCIAL  
OBLIGATIONS TOWARDS ICEM. NEGOTIATIONS IN THIS CONNECTION  
COULD BE ENTERED INTO AS CIRCUMSTANCES DICTATE.  
SINCERELY YOURS, A.P. ELLIS, SECRETARY FOR IMMIGRATION. END  
QUOTE.  
AS A CONSEQUENCE, THOMAS ANNOUNCED THAT HE WILL WITHDRAW  
THE ICEM DIPLOMATIC STAFF FROM SA.

2. WILL REPORT FULLY ON SCBF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE AND COUNCIL  
MEETING NEXT WEEK.DALE

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
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**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** COMMITTEE MEETINGS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
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**Draft Date:** 15 NOV 1974  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** cunninfx  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
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**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**TAGS:** OCON, AORG, ICEM  
**To:** STATE  
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